

RE: Service Standards for Market Dominant Mail Products

The amendment to 39 CFR part 121 proposes to "increase the service standards for certain categories of First-Class Mail." This is a proposal to degrade service in the interests of "cost-effectiveness." This will drive more US Postal Service business to USPS's competitors such as UPS, Federal Express, etc.

I live in Hawaii. We are very dependent on the USPS. I don't have mail service. All we have is post offices. This amendment will start a downward spiral for USPS. Delaying First-Class mail will result in a likely loss of business for our state which is so dependent on the mail service. It already takes a week for mail to arrive on the island from the mainland. Delaying it even further is not acceptable. The post office used to be very reliable until the recent changes in 2020. This past Christmas was the first time that there are still packages that never arrived. Since 2020, the changes to the post office have been very detrimental with the goal of either driving business to for profit companies or driving the USPS into the ground. We rely on the post office. We can't afford any post office closures. We need normal business hours. Our local post offices already have much abbreviated hours.

The role of the USPS is not to make a profit. The role of the USPS is to ensure that all US residents have the same access to mail service regardless of where they live or who they are. Before the founding of this country, the aristocracy had mail privileges not available to commoners (government officials such as members of Congress still have those privileges such as franking). The USPS democratized mail service. When proposing amendments to the Code of Federal Regulations which govern the mail, it is important to keep this in mind. The USPS is about equal and democratic access. Changing First-Class Mail deliver will erode the strength of the USPS which will further erode full, equal, and democratic access to mail service. I am strongly opposed to this rule change.

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